

Activities Of Women In State And Nation

A Page For Women, Edited by Mrs. Al Fairbrother.

Worth Thinking About.

While not questioning the big things and the worth while things done by the General Federation of Women's Clubs, just how far the State Federation should allow itself to be led or dominated by the national organization is a matter for every club woman to seriously consider. This applies not alone to the North Carolina Federation, but in a greater or less degree to every state represented in the great sisterhood of earnest and purposeful women.

Since the last meeting of the General Federation we have commented upon some of the actions taken—not by the convention, but at the convention. So far as we have seen we were the first of the many present to say in print what was freely talked, suggesting that delegates were given little opportunity to be heard from. We were supported in this view by some who wrote later, among them Miss Louisa Poppenheim, former president of the South Carolina State Federation and for years editor of the Keystone magazine. A part of Miss Poppenheim's article was copied in these columns, also an article from the General Federation magazine in which a delegate boldly charged the use of the steam roller and other tactics not approved by men and women who want to see fair play and have a proper appreciation of the rights of others. This week we are reproducing from the Columbia State of August 20 a very conservative review of the Biennial from the pen of Mrs. Allen, retiring president of the South Carolina Federation, who has been a guest of North Carolina club women on several occasions.

We ask our readers to note particularly what Mrs. Allen says regarding the election of state directors. Having been present as a delegate, when the amendment providing for representation of every state on the board of directors was discussed, and remembering particularly that the question was asked and answered at the time as to how these directors should be chosen, we had wondered, vaguely wondered, where we were when the resolution was adopted to instruct the corresponding secretary to write to the state presidents and recommend that the self-nominated directors forced upon some of the states be urged to hold the office until the next convention of the General Federation.

Mrs. Allen's article is enlightening. She tells us how it happened. The resolution was passed by the council, made up of these same—some of them self-nominated directors, who meant to resign as soon as they learned the wishes of their state clubs. If there was any opposition to this motion or resolution on the part of any one of the irregularly elected directors, any protest against the embarrassing(?) position in which they would be placed by its adoption, we have not heard of it. If opposition there was the woman who exhibited this bit of good taste owes it to herself to proclaim the fact.

And here you have the whole directorship scheme in a nut shell. The state presidents who have an eye on that particular honor, should it happen to go through, don't think it will go through and therefore deem it wise to take up the time of the state convention in discussing it. When they reach New York they avoid taking it up with their state delegations until too late for action. They go on the nominating committee not knowing what to do in the event the amendment is adopted, although they have had notice months in advance that such an amendment will be urged by the western states, which are strong numerically and in club spirit, and generally get what they go after.

When once in and called on to name their candidate for director they are lost in bewilderment and in desperation turn to a General Federation officer for instructions. The General Federation officer blandly recommends that they name themselves, explaining that they can resign as soon as they get out and learn the wishes of their delegations. When they get out they find obstacles in the way of naming substitutes and conclude to wait until they get home and can consult their executive boards.

A meeting is called of the new council, at which time opportunity will be given for those desiring to resign in favor of their state's choice will be given. Instead of this a motion or resolution is offered providing a way for every one to stay in and put the blame on somebody else. The resolution is adopted, of course, and those who engineered this smooth piece of politics may flatter themselves that the guileless and confiding club women do not see through the whole pitiful plot.

But they deceive themselves. The average quiet woman who sits on the back seat and says but little is not quite so unobservant as she may appear. She has eyes and ears and human intelligence.

There are many reasons why the state president should not be an officer in the General Federation, but that is a subject to be taken up later. What is right and proper for the state organizations to join together in united efforts for the general welfare, there is danger, and grave danger, of the states being dominated by the larger and stronger body in a way that will work detriment rather than good to the local organizations.

First Marriage in Salem, N. C.
According to the Morning Memorial for Salem, as translated by Miss Adelaide Fries, Justice of the Peace Loesch (Lash) married the first couple in Salem February 21, 1769, the ceremony being performed for a neighbor, Swimm, who lived beyond Salem.

That Famous Biennial.

(Mrs. Allen, State Director for South Carolina, in Columbia State.)
A great deal has been written and much more reported verbally of that wonderful meeting of club women, several thousand strong, gathered together in New York in May, and through it all, if not openly stated, one reads between the lines more of less of a feeling of disappointment.

For my own part I cannot help but feel thankful that my first impression of a biennial was received at the twelfth rather than at the thirteenth biennial of the General Federation. It may be true that "comparisons are odious," but it is only by comparison that we are enabled to reach an ideal.

The New York club women did everything in their power to make the thirteenth biennial a success; their hospitality was unbounded, their courtesy and patience unlimited, but they made the mistake of inviting the whole world, and the whole world came—delegates, alternates and visiting club women.

There was room for every one in the Seventh Regiment armory, but the hall was too large to be comfortable. Dr. William Norman Guthrie, who spoke on "Foreign Literature and the New Citizen," said: "One cannot talk in this place, one can only roar like a bull and paw the air." So, while it was trying on the listener, it must have been appalling to those who were endeavoring to make themselves heard. But while the hall was so large as to be overwhelming, the crowds so large as to be unwieldy and the entrances too small, the order and self-control were remarkable.

It was impossible to hear in the seats allotted to the South Carolina delegation, and as after 9:30 o'clock (the sessions began at 9 o'clock after the first few days) delegates were permitted to sit anywhere they wished or could hear better, there was no opportunity for the delegation to get together.

In Chicago the Auditorium theater was the convention hall and the Congress hotel, just across the street, official headquarters. Each delegate had its quota of seats and could not sit anywhere else. The South Carolina delegation had the first box to the left of the stage, prominent seats and as good as any in the house. There were only six chairs in the box. Our six delegates occupied these and no one else was allowed in the box.

The North Carolina delegation occupied the two theater boxes next to South Carolina, and the sister delegations became very friendly, holding frequent conferences together. Four of the six South Carolina delegates were with relatives in different parts of the city, only two staying at the Sherman, which was designated as headquarters for South Carolina, the president taking a room at the Congress hotel the last week of the convention, where she could be in the midst of things and not waste so much time going back and forth. But the delegates saw each other every day and frequently went to lunch together.

The afternoon conferences were held in the Auditorium and in various rooms at the Congress hotel, so that one could attend part of one conference, and if there was a speaker or a number on the program of another conference, she could hear the speaker or hear she could do so.

Perhaps New York is too large to be a successful convention city. In a smaller city it is easier to get together. Besides, the newspapers, which are a powerful ally, are more willing to lend their influence, sending their best reporters to report the earnest, honest work of the body rather than the humorous situations or things of a frivolous or perhaps sensational character.

As the acoustics were so poor it was impossible to enter into any discussion of the motions, amendments, etc., and consequently some of them passed that possibly would not have carried had there been an opportunity for full and free discussion from the floor.

I had no idea when the question of a director for each state came up at our Anderson meeting that the amendment would carry. South Carolina voted against it, but apparently a large majority were in favor of each state being represented on the board. It was of course an ideal representation, but at the time I felt that it would make an unwieldy board and involve too much expense. It would perhaps have been wiser to adopt the amendment now to go into effect two years hence, thus giving each state federation an opportunity to elect its own candidate for the office. As it was the amendment went into effect at once, and consequently a number of the members of the nominating committee (which consisted of a delegate from each state, in nearly every instance the state president) who were not prepared to present a name from their states were placed in the embarrassing position of presenting their own names, intending to resign and have their state delegation or executive board appoint a substitute nominee. But this question being discussed at the directors' meeting a motion was made that the corresponding secretary send a communication to the state presidents announcing the election of directors from their states to membership on the board of the General Federation and advising that to preserve the continuity of work the membership remain the same throughout the biennial period.

Our retiring president was nominated and elected, an honor which she fully appreciates, but which was a complete surprise to her.

Uruguay Stepping Forward.
A press dispatch from Montevideo, Uruguay, states that a committee of congressmen has prepared a report recommending suffrage for Uruguay women. This is one of the several advanced measures which is attracting world-wide attention to Uruguay.

To Broader Fields

Guilford county, which has sent out so many trained workers to labor in broader fields, yielded to the state this week in the person of Miss Grace Schaeffer, county demonstrator during the past twelve months, one of the most capable and popular young women connected with our educational system. While a resident of the county but little over two years, she has made such an impression on the community and so many staunch friends among those with whom she has been thrown that there is universal regret over her departure.

Miss Schaeffer's first introduction to Guilford was as teacher of domestic



Miss Grace Schaeffer in Canning Club Costume.

science in the high school at Jamestown. Before coming to North Carolina she had taught this very important branch of modern education in one of the schools at Knoxville, having received her own education at the University of Tennessee.

Evidence of her efficiency while at Jamestown led to a promotion which placed her in charge of the girls' canning clubs of the county, where, with larger responsibilities, she developed capacity to go right on in other departments of community work. As county demonstrator she has, during the past six months, worked marvels in the rural homes, bringing to the country woman, as to the country girl, a message of sympathy and appreciation from the busy world of men and women which recognizes in them the real strength of the nation. By interesting talks at community meetings and practical suggestions when visiting the homes she has awakened latent ambitions and stimulated them to higher efforts.

As a result of talks on beautifying grounds, home decorations and similar topics made by Mr. Paul Lindley of Greensboro, State Agent T. E. Brown and Mr. Jacques Busbee of Raleigh and others upon request of Miss Schaeffer some fifty or sixty homes in Guilford county have been completely transformed during the present summer. In one instance, where the buildings were particularly unsightly, the woman in the family was aroused to the point of painting her house with her own hands. Nor did she stop there. Her front yard and back yard, heretofore neglected, were taken in hand and given the treatment suggested by the men who had made a study of landscaping. In the place of washed-out paths and barren places appearing in the picture taken before the transforming process was begun here appears now a beautiful green turf with well-kent walks and beds of flowers. Dilapidated outhouses are covered by masses of green vines, and altogether this home is one of the most inviting to be found anywhere. That is simply the work of one woman whose love for the beautiful was awakened and who was shown the way to gratify her heart's desire with the means at her command.

It was Miss Schaeffer's idea that a contest be held, prizes being awarded for greatest improvement in rural homes. As she leaves before the work of the summer is completed this part of the program will be turned over to her successor, but she will await with interest the decision of the judges.

In her new field, as assistant to Mrs. Jane McKimmon, at the head of state demonstration work for women, Miss Schaeffer's headquarters will be in Raleigh. Her duties will take her into different counties to organize clubs and to stir into action the neglected and indifferent ones to see the way and live up to their present obligations. That she will meet all requirements and fill the place acceptably to all concerned those who know her feel safe in predicting, based on her record up to the present writing, which is certainly one of which she may well feel proud.

What Makes a Girl Popular.
Every girl has a natural desire to be popular with the other sex, and every girl is interested in knowing the secret of such popularity. Some girls have the idea that the way to have a good time is to break away from the recognized rules of social life. The free and easy, reckless type of girls may receive a good deal of attention of a certain kind, but it is safe to say that men do not really care for such a girl. Certainly they do not have any respect for her. They may enjoy a summer flirtation with her, but such a girl never enters seriously into their thoughts. The girl who is kind and thoughtful to her parents is the girl whom they admire. The girl who is disrespectful to her parents will not long retain the respect of others. Men know very well that a girl who deceives her mother cannot be trusted. A good daughter has in her the making of a good wife, and a man remembers this when he begins to think seriously of matrimony.—Leslie's.

"Little Eva" for Congress.

(Richmond Journal.)
Kansas has had the courage of her convictions. Having given women the ballot, the first congressional district, which embraces the counties of Atchison, Brown, Doniphan, Jackson, Jefferson, Leavenworth, Nemaha and Shawnee, has nominated Dr. Eva Harding on the Democratic ticket to contest the seat with Representative Daniel Read Anthony, Jr., of Leavenworth, a Republican, now serving his fifth term in Congress. The district is normally Republican by from ten to fifteen thousand. At the last by-election a Progressive candidate polled 9,259 votes to Anthony's 31,589. The Democratic candidate was secured with 20,279. Dr. Eva Harding is a suffragist who has served with credit on the Topeka school board and is a student of public affairs. If she can enlist the undivided support of her fellow suffragists in the district she stands a fair show of beating Anthony, who admits it is going to be rough sledding to campaign against a woman. Kansas is whimsical as a state, and to take the initiative in sending a woman to Congress may appeal to the voters of the first district. For the Democrats to grab the honors in that direction would be a rich joke on the Republicans, who have controlled the district almost continuously for the last quarter of a century. We hope the Democratic national campaign committee will give heed to Dr. Eva's contest for supremacy and send out speakers and what cash is necessary to hire halls and disseminate literature. Here's hoping Little Eva crosses the political ice in safety next November.

But little Eva lost out. She was beaten by a chivalrous man.

A Good Picture.
A Greensboro club woman on being asked for her picture by a purveyor of club news explained that she had no real objection to having her picture printed, provided she could get one that looked at all like her, or at least like the way she thought and felt that she looked, based on her mental attitude and the reflection which she was in the habit of contemplating in her own mirror.

"I am, as you know," said this very sensible and perfectly reasonable woman, "a person of optimistic temperament and cheerful disposition. My natural instinct is to be always on the sunny side, if there is a sunny side, and my normal frame of mind is one at peace with the world, with the little worries put behind me. This being the case, I can't understand how it is that when I get before a camera all of this is reversed. I am made to appear the most wretched and discontented of mortals, a scowl on my face and a look in my eyes that is either a vacant stare or the contemplation of some desperate deed quite foreign to my thoughts. If the photographer suggests to me to 'look pleasant' the picture comes out an idiotic smirk that is even more disgusting. Oh, don't say picture to me. I have had sittings and sittings, all with the same result. I know I am not a stunning beauty, but if I really am as ugly as the camera makes me appear I will have no picture. I will not shock my own vanity by submitting to the ordeal."

"Perhaps you have been unfortunate in choosing your photographer," remarked an interested friend who happened to be present.

"Oh, I have tried the very best, those who make good pictures of everybody else, artists of well known ability and reputation."

"That may be true," said the friend, "but perhaps these busy artists of established reputation have not taken time or trouble to study you, to bring out your good points and get you at your best. That is often the case when the charm of a face is in the expression which changes with the moods. I want you to try one more time before you put yourself in the list of impossibles. I want you to try Davenport, at the Eutsler studio. He not only understands thoroughly the art of finishing his work, but he is peculiarly happy in putting life into his pictures. The secret of his success lies in the fact that he gets the picture when the subject is not expecting it; no stiff poses or looking into space with him—just a natural, easy and unstudied air that never fails to surprise and please.

"This accounts also for his success with children and animals," continued the speaker, "and, by the way, his services are very much in demand for this line of work. Many northern people who have hunting lodges in easy distance of Greensboro have had him out to get pictures of their favorite dogs, and those in the city have been much pleased at his success with their pets. Posing a restless animal is about as hard as anything you can imagine, but he seems to understand them and has a way of fixing their attention just at the right moment. Another specialty of his is school scenes and all sorts of outdoor photography. Guilford county is full of his work—groups of students and other bodies presented in the papers and catalogues. In the last issue of Echoes, gotten out by the Greensboro College for Women, are samples of these."

All of which this writer knows to be true. Many of the local pictures which have appeared from time to time in these columns came from the Eutsler studio. The one printed this week of Miss Schaeffer was made by Davenport and is true to life. It was made upon request and a rush order. This is another reason why busy people like Davenport. Being himself a busy man, he appreciates the significance of the word NOW. He loves his art and has pride in his work. He has made a success and deserves it.

While the club woman is off on a summer vacation there is a dearth of club news.

Miss Bessie Hackney.

In announcing High Point's good fortune in securing the services of Miss Bessie Hackney as assistant secretary of the industrial committee, of which Mr. Steve Clark is the man at the wheel, the Enterprise pays a glowing tribute to the brains and ability of this well-known North Carolina girl, who has made herself felt in the world, and for the discovery of which Greensboro takes the largest share. It was in Greensboro that Miss Hackney's work, while secretary of the Retail Merchants' Association, attracted attention. It was in Greensboro that she developed the tact and the know how to deal with large questions in a large way, and it was the recognition accorded her here that led to the invitation from Raleigh to enter a larger field as secretary of the chamber of commerce at the state capital.

So while not exactly a native of Guilford—as so many of the people who do things are—she belongs to Greensboro in a way and Greensboro is proud to learn of her later successes.

The Enterprise says: "The consensus of opinion is that Steve Clark and the industrial committee have made a ten-strike in landing Miss Hackney for this position. They were especially fortunate in being able to secure her services, and it is very likely that at no other time than now would this have been possible, but the fates have already been mighty kind to the industrial committee."

"By force of circumstances," said Mr. Clark, "were we able to secure her. She would be my first choice of any woman for this place of whom I have ever heard. High Point and the industrial committee are especially favored by this turn of fortune. We expect and we shall receive great things as a result of Miss Hackney's work. I congratulate myself as the secretary, the industrial committee of the club and the city as a whole, upon securing the services of Miss Hackney. And that's just the way Steve Clark feels about it, too."

Equality in Japan.
Japanese women are the subject of some of the legislation to be enacted in that country. The labor interests of Japan have had a representative studying the laws advocated by American organizations, and among the laws advocated are some pertaining to female labor and its restriction to the same number of hours prescribed for men. This is a step in equality that may place the Japanese working women on a par with her working man. Equal rights may prevail in Japan before sections of the United States catch up with the trend of human progress.

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